

## **ALABAMA GATEWAY TO COMMUNITY LIVING OVERVIEW**

The Alabama Medicaid Agency has been awarded a Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The goal of the Demonstration is to support individuals to successfully transition from institutional settings to community living, while making continued enhancements to the State's infrastructure for home and community-based services that will support community living for all Alabamians regardless of disability. For the state of Alabama, the MFP program will be referred to as the "Gateway to Community Living."

Alabama's Gateway to Community Living Demonstration uses the existing State's long term care system as a foundation. Enhanced services and supports for transition include:

- Dedicated transition coordination services that will assist participants to develop and implement an individualized transition plan;
- Assistance for costs related to transition such as rental and utility deposits;
- A comprehensive initiative to promote the availability and accessibility of housing and assistive technology resources, including regional Housing Specialists who will assist in locating appropriate housing for participants;
- A planning initiative to integrate and streamline access to the home and community based long term care support systems across all disability and aging populations;
- Dedicated resources to promote employment opportunities;
- Renewed emphasis on opportunities for self-direction of services;
- Comprehensive stakeholder training; and,
- An aggressive outreach and social marketing campaign.

In addition to supporting transitions, the MFP program will generate additional funding to support systemic improvements in community services and supports through enhanced federal payments. The Alabama Medicaid Agency will work with its Long-Term Care Rebalancing Advisory Committee to ensure stakeholder input in prioritizing and designing these improvements.